

LOUISVILLE METRO COUNCIL COMMITTEE SUMMARY

Health and Human Services Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

3:10 P.M.

Third Floor, City Hall

Present:

Chair:

Mary Woolridge

Members:

CM Tandy, CM Benson,

Absent:

CW Shanklin, CM Stuckel (excused),
CM Engle, (excused) and CM Blackwell

Also Present:

CW Hamilton

Special Items for Discussion: 1) Reylene Medina/Director of the Louisville Regional Alzheimer's Office: Alzheimer's Awareness Month 2) Michelle Wade, KIPDA's information and Assistance Planner, and SHIP (Benefits Counseling): Prescription Drug Help/Medicare-Medicaid basics.

Chairwoman Woolridge began the meeting by announcing the members and non-members of the committee that were present. A quorum was not established.

Special items for Discussion:

Reylene Medina, Director of the Louisville Regional Alzheimer's Office, was present to speak. She gave out handouts and the following was discussed:

- Alzheimer's disease in the United States
 - ✓ An estimated 4.5 million Americans have Alzheimer's
 - ✓ An estimated of 74, 000 live in Kentucky
 - ✓ 50,000 individuals, family members and professional caregivers are affected by the disease
 - ✓ By 2050 the number of individuals with Alzheimer's could range from 11.3 million to 16 million
 - ✓ Finding a treatment that could delay the onset of Alzheimer's disease by five years could reduce the number of individuals with the disease by 50 percent after 50 years
 - ✓ Increasing age is the greatest risk factor for Alzheimer's. One in 10 individuals over 65 and nearly over 85 are affected
 - ✓ A person with Alzheimer's disease will live an average of eight years and up to as many 20 years from the onset of symptoms as estimated by relatives.
 - ✓ People with Alzheimer's survive about half as long as those of similar age without dementia
- 24 Hour a day help line is available
- Treatment for persons with Dementia
- Dementia Care Workshops
- Dementia Care In-Service Programs (attachment)
- 14 Support Groups
- Educational Programs
- National Data Base – for people who may wonder with the disease
- Learning Library on Taylorsville Rd. regarding the disease
- Jewelry for persons that have the disease (necklace or bracelet) to identify them
- 10 Warning signs of the Disease
 - ✓ Memory Loss
 - ✓ Difficulty performing familiar tasks
 - ✓ Problems with language
 - ✓ Disorientation to time and place
 - ✓ Poor or decreased judgment
 - ✓ Problems with abstract thinking
 - ✓ Misplacing things
 - ✓ Change in mood or behavior
 - ✓ Changes in personality
 - ✓ Loss of imitative
- The Local Association is doing a Target Outreach with African Community

- ✓ March 31st there will be a conference to focus on the African American Caregiver located at the Hilton Garden Inn, Crittenden Dr.
- ✓ African Americans population is at a higher risk for Alzheimer's disease
- ✓ African Americans are also at a high risk for diabetes, heart problems and blood pressure these diseases have a risk on Alzheimer's disease
- ✓ Working on getting a support group in the west Louisville area
- A Task Force has been formed to help with the outreach of Alzheimer's
 - ✓ Community Leaders
 - ✓ Care Givers
 - ✓ Church Leaders
- The Budget is 1.3 Million dollars to service all Counties.
 - ✓ The majority of the funds come from private donors
 - ✓ Small funding from the state to fund the Day Center in Lexington
 - ✓ Health Department has helped with the outreach

AGENDA

[R-182-11-06](#) A RESOLUTION DECLARING NOVEMBER AS NATIONAL ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE MONTH IN METRO LOUISVILLE.

CM Tandy made a motion to approve this item. CM Benson seconded the motion.

CM Tandy made a motion to send the item to **Old Business** due to a lack of a quorum. CM Benson seconded the motion.

Special item for Discussion: Michele Wade, KIPDA's Information and Assistance Planner, and SHIP (Benefits Counseling): Prescription Drug Help/Medicare-Medicaid basic.

Michele Wade, KIPDA's Information and Assistance Planner, spoke to the item as following:

- The center for the Medicare and Medicaid Program depends on the State Health Insurance Program
- The regional office is in Atlanta, the (SHIP) program is the local present
- The (SHIP) program has trained counselors (mostly volunteers) to review what they have and what they need
- 53 different Drug plans in Kentucky
- To date more than 9 million people with Medicare who qualify for extra help are getting continuous prescription drug coverage from Medicare at a low cost
- People who apply and are approved for the extra help can join a Medicare drug plan and pay no penalty between now and December 31, 2006
- This one-time enrollment opportunity allows people to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan right after they become eligible for the extra help
- There is no cost or obligation to apply for extra help, anyone who thinks they may qualify should apply through Social Security or their State Medicaid office
- The earlier beneficiaries apply for the extra help, the sooner they can take advantage of a benefit worth around \$3,700 a year that pays for 95 per cent of drug costs average
- People who qualify for the full low-income subsidy get extra help to pay their full premiums and deductibles in certain plans and minimal cost sharing
- Medicaid had provided a tool on the web site to choose a drug plan
- Take a list of medications with you and compare to the different plans, each plan has a different coverage
- November 15th is the first day for enrollment to December 31, 2006

CM Tandy made a motion to adjourn. CM Benson seconded the motion.

***NOTE: Items sent to the Consent Calendar or Old Business will be heard before the full Council at the November 21, 2006 Metro Council Meeting.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m. without objection.

MEM